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FINAL SUMMARY OF “FUTURE DIRECTIONS IN NUCLEAR MEDICINE”

A symposium was held in 1999 on the eve of the new millennium to survey the status of and future directions of the field of nuclear medicine. Some 20 invited presentations were given by leading senior researchers in the field.

Inspired by this symposium, we set out to develop a new textbook on nuclear medicine imaging technology, inviting the symposium speakers and other researchers to contribute chapters. The book's citation is:

M.N. Wernick and J.N. Aarsvold, *Emission Tomography: The Fundamentals of PET and SPECT*, San Diego: Academic Press, 2004, pp. 596.

The US DOE provided funds to underwrite this book, which has been a tremendous success, and would not have been possible without DOE support. Funds were used to make a bulk purchase of approximately 600 copies of the book, which were distributed free of charge to researchers in the nuclear medicine field. This purchase enabled us to secure a high quality publisher and a low list price of the book, so that it can be widely disseminated. Preference in distributing the book was given to young investigators, U.S. scientists, and attendees of the symposium.

The book received a commendation from the British Medical Association as one of the outstanding books of the year in medicine. It also received a laudatory review from Doodys.com, which is a reviewer of medical books.

We frequently receive positive comments on the significant impact the book has made on education in nuclear medicine technology.